

The Daily Gazetteer.

NUMB. 1758

MONDAY, MAY 18. 1741.

DAILY GAZETTEER.

I am one that live constantly in the Country, and spend the greatest Part of my time upon my own Estate in the West of England, I know nothing of publick Transactions but what I pick up from the News Papers and Pamphlets that are published both for and against the present Administration.

which I order to be constantly sent down to me, which I make use of as Amusements only, and for Informations to be rely'd on, concerning material Points which have of late employed our Governors, and engaged the Attention of the People; for I am thoroughly sensible, how strong is of an Attachment to any one Party, and how easily it sometimes draws even honest Men from the fair Way of representing Facts, as well as making Arguments. However, Sir, I must ingenuously confess, that I always read the Books and Papers on the Side of the Government with infinitely more Pleasure, than those wrote against it; and for the following Reasons.

Because I think I go upon a better Foundation than the Facts stated by those Writers, as being that I have much better Opportunities of knowing the State of Affairs, and, I think, less Interest in misrepresenting the contrary Side; and then, because the main Scheme of the Writers on one Side, seems to me to be out of Love with my own Situation, as if they were to persuade me, that all I hold most precious, and to raise unreasonable jealousies, and of his Majesty and his Ministers, as if the one either did not understand, or did not care for the Welfare of his People; and the others seem to be bent to enrich themselves, and enslave their Subjects: Whereas the Writers on the other Side, seem to be sincerely rejoiced at, that my Life, my Liberty, and my Property, are in no sort of Danger, most effectual Methods have been constantly used both by his Majesty and his Ministers, to secure me, and that no one Step has been taken to take away from his Majesty's Royal Father first ascended the Throne, to the present Moment, to in- reasonable Man to mistrust there ever was, or is, the most distant Design or Attempt to break our Laws, or invade our Liberties.—This way of reasoning, Sir, when it can't be contradicted, (as I am not hitherto, with any Foundation of Truth) necessarily give an honest Man more Pleasure than any other, whose sole Aim is to rob his Readers Minds of their Liberty, to fill their Heads with dark Suspicions, and to make them see nothing but Slavery, Bonds, and Death, without the least Ground for such Apprehensions.

Sir, if you will give me Leave to tell you of my own, and a Circle of honest Gentlemen, who live near me, with some industrious plain Men, we can't help giving Credit to the Government, we are safe and happy, for a better Reason than because they say so, viz. because we really are so.—We can now with our several Employments or Amusements, pass our Times peaceably jog on together to the End of our Days, without any Apprehensions of insulting, excessive Fines, illegal Imprisonments, and Executions, of all which we have heard our Relations and Friends give such dismal Accounts, and can now enjoy the quiet Enjoyment of our Estates; and I must own it is a very sensible Pleasure to me, to observe the poorest of my Neighbours, who are about his little Cabbage garden, and who are secure from being disturbed in his Property by the greatest and most powerful Man, in the Court or Country.

Instances of our own Security and Happiness, which I have said, — Counsellors — that feelingly tell us what we are — and we stand in Need of no other Evidence.

There is another Topick, Sir, which the Writers of the Administration take great Delight in, and

are continually declaiming upon, and that is, Corruption, and the undue Influence which, they say, is made use of by Men in Power in the Elections for Members of Parliament; and as the Time for chusing new Representatives is now drawing near, I hope you will pardon me for laying before you some Thoughts which have occurred to me upon that Subject.

First, I take it to be an undoubted Truth, that there are many Doctrines and Positions both in Politicks and Morality, which tho' certainly right and just in the main, must still admit of some Limitations and Exceptions, without which they would become highly inconvenient, if not altogether impracticable.

Thus the Doctrine of Non-resistance may, for aught I know, be very necessary to be inculcated in the most general and extensive Terms; yet I believe there are but few at this time of Day will deny, that in the Case of an open Violation of our Laws, and Subversion of our Liberties, by the Person who should be their Guardian and Support, (as it happened in the Time of James II.) Resistance will then become strictly justifiable both by the Laws of God and Man.

Thus too we are commanded to love our Enemies, and do good to those who despitefully use us and persecute us; but I believe nobody would think himself debarred by this Precept from using his best Endeavours to hinder his Enemy from arriving at any Degree of Power or Authority, which he had just Reason to think would be employed to his own Destruction; otherwise, he would violate the first grand Law imprinted in us all, of Self-preservation, by thus neglecting a necessary Precaution for his own Defence; and without doubt the Cases are numberless which might be put, where large Exceptions and Reservations are not only allowable, but necessary to be annexed to some of the most important Doctrines and Precepts delivered to us in general Terms. But to bring the Argument closer to the Point in Question: Corruption, or that particular Instance of it, of inducing Voters at an Election, by Rewards or Promises, to act or vote contrary to their Inclinations, in a Country where Freedom of Elections is so valuable a Part of the Constitution, is, in general, highly blameable, and greatly to be discouraged. I must add too, that all Punishments, Threatenings, negative Discouragements, or discountenancing Voters by not employing them in their several Trades, but upon certain Conditions to be performed at an Election; in short, all Misrepresentations of Persons or Things, and all Arts and Methods whatsoever, that tend to cast a Mist before their Eyes, and pervert their Judgments, are equally criminal with the most avowed Bribery: Because they equally embarrass and leave a Byass upon the Mind, deprive it of its natural Freedom, and bring it in Subjection to a foreign Influence. Thus, Sir, I think I have fairly stated the most notorious Methods of influencing Elections, and own, in the general, they are all culpable, nay, believe they would all have been punishable in *Republica Platensis*; but as I fear we now live in *facie Romuli*, I don't doubt but a Case may be supposed, attended with such Circumstances, as would make some of the above-mentioned Methods necessary for the Good of the Commonwealth, and take from them the Odiousness and Reproach which the Word Bribery, in general, seems to carry with it.

Suppose then a Nation to have been governed for a good Number of Years, by a Prince endowed with all the Qualities capable of making his People happy — merciful and just in a most eminent Degree, and one whose exact Judgment and honest Intentions made him constantly embrace, and steadily pursue, every Method to aggrandize his Country, and secure to his People their just Rights both at home and abroad.—Suppose this Prince to have employed a Set of Ministers under him, who brought with them into his Service, or copied from their Royal Master, all the Dispositions necessary to promote their Sovereign's Honour, and the Good of his People. Suppose them to have acted, during the whole Course of their Administration, with a Spirit of Wisdom and Resolution with regard to their foreign Enemies, and the utmost Integrity and Tenderness with respect to their Fellow-subjects. Suppose then at the same time, a Set of mock Patriots to have arisen, hood-wink'd, and directed by a few fiery, disappointed Leaders, who made it their whole Business and Delight to ruffle and disparage every Step of the Government; and by the most profligate Methods, to endeavour to frustrate and disconcert every Intention of the Ministry, tho' never so plainly calculated for the Benefit of the

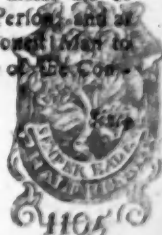
Publick, nay, whose Despair and Pride had carried them to such an Excess of Madness and Folly, that they seem'd even willing to perish in the Ruins of their Country, so they could but involve the acting Ministers in the same general Confusion. If Men, I say, like these, should determine to get themselves and their Adherents chosen the Representatives of the People, and by Bribes, Promises, Threats, Perjuries and Lies, should so far soften or terrify any Number of Electors, as to make them stagger in their Resolutions, would it not become the Ministry to bestir themselves in Opposition to these furious Enemies of their Country's Happiness? Would it not be incumbent upon them, to endeavour by all Methods to undeceive their misguided Countrymen; and by more than ordinary Encouragements, to keep them steady in the Performance of their Duty, for their own Preservation? Nay, could it possibly, at such a Time, be thought criminal, *utilia honestis miscere*, by proper Rewards and Promises, to fortify and arm their Minds against the Arts and Engines of the opposite Faction? Or must a Ministry, upon such an Occasion, at once turn Quakers, and while the Arm of Flesh was lifted up against them, hang down their Heads and Hands, desert their own Defence, and submit to the Blow, without making use of the Means with which Providence and their own Situation had abundantly supplied them?

A State or Commonwealth has upon many Occasions been compar'd to a Ship; and, if I may be allow'd to make use of the same Allegory, I'll suppose an *English* Merchantman richly laden, just ready to be attack'd and boarded by another *English* Ship lately turn'd Pirates; if upon such an Emergency the Crew of the Merchantman, by some unaccountable Infatuation, should shew an Aversion to maintain their Post, or fight against the Pirates, because they were their Countrymen, and perhaps their Acquaintance, so that the Master of the Ship should be oblig'd, in order to make them act with proper Vigour for their own Defence, to disperse his own Money, or even to break Bulk and distribute some of the Ship's Goods, among them, for the Preservation of the rest; I say, in such a case, whatever Opinion the Owners might conceive from hence of the Ship's Crew, they could not but applaud the Conduct of the Master, who had bribed the Men to do their Duty contrary to their Inclinations, and by that Means had preserved the Ship from Pirates and Robbers.

Tho' the Word *Bribery*, I must confess, will always carry with it a disagreeable Sound, and does generally, as I have said, suppose some Degree of Guilt in the Persons that make use of it; yet I make no doubt but it is possible to apply it to very honest Purposes, as might be made appear from many Instances in our own History: And if the Ministry in the latter End of Queen Anne's Reign had thought fit to drain their Mistress's Exchequer, in Bribing the Electors to keep that Set of Men out of Parliament who approved of the infamous Peace of *Utrecht*, they had secured to themselves a much better Character both of Honesty and Wisdom than they have at present, and I believe by this Time the Nation in general would have thought the Money had been well laid out.

I shall trouble you, Sir, no further at present, but to conclude with a short Story, as it is told by *Suetonius* in his Life of *Julius Caesar*, which I think applicable to the present Subject.

When *J. Caesar* was making Interest for the Consulship, there were Two other Competitors for the same Office, *L. Lucius*, and *M. Bibulus*; but *Caesar* chose to join his Interest with the former upon these Terms, that he having the larger Purse, and himself the greater Interest, he should defray all the Charges of the Election in both their Names. The principal Managers in the Government understanding this, and imagining he would stick at nothing when once arrived at this high Office, especially in Conjunction with a tame and complying Colleague, espoused the other Candidate with all their Authority; and by making a common Purse for that Purpose, enabled *Bibulus* to bribe as high as his Competitors, *Cato* himself being of Opinion, that Bribes at that Juncture were for the Interest of the Commonwealth: And I believe it has never been an Imputation upon the Memory of *Cato*, and the other real Patriots of those Days, that they thought fit to make use of Bribes in order to keep out a dangerous Person, and at the same Time to procure a deserving honest Man to be elected into the most important Office of the Commonwealth.



Madrid, May 1:

Stockholm, May 6. A

I R E L A N D.

FOREIGN PORTS

HOME PORTS.

Arrived

L O N D O N, May 18.

From the London-Gazette.

Lately Published.

BOOKS sold by J. OSBORN, in Paternoster-Row.

VIII. The Harmony of Reason and Religion, &c. &c. Essays, viz. 1. On Natural Reason, &c. &c. 2. On Religion, &c. Being a seasonable Antidote against the Prejudices of the World, &c. &c. Price 2 s. fitch'd.

Monday arriv'd a Mail from Holland.

Warsaw, May 6.

THE too great Toleration granted in Poland to Divorces, having called out a long Time for some Remedy, which the various Circumstances of this Kingdom, besides the Antiquity of some of its Customs and Privileges, would never yet admit of, the Pope, in order to prevent the Abuses of that Toleration, as far as is in his Power, has issued the following Brief to the Archbishops and Bishops of the Kingdom.

Reverend Brethren, Greeting, and Apostolical Benediction;
Indissoluble Nature of Marriage establish'd in the beginning of the World with respect to Adam, only confirmed afterwards by those Words of our Lord, *What God hath joined together let not man divide*; but by his Evangelical Grace it has been reduced in the Number of the Sacraments of the Church.

Want both Tears and Words fully to express how, upon hearing that the sacred Ties of that Sacrament are every Day publickly prophan'd and broken in several of the Provinces of Christendom, particularly in the Kingdom of Poland, at Prevarications are therein committed with Levity and Indifference, as if Marriage did derive its Origin from the Laws of Nature, and not from the Divine Law, upon the basis of the Gospel, and the Sanction of the Canon.

scandalous a Licence, as permits both Men and Women to enter into second, third, and even fourth marriages, during the Lives of the Husbands or Wives to whom they were first marry'd, can only be ascribed to the Negligence of the Tribunals of the Kingdom. And we are more ready to believe this, than the same Abuse happens elsewhere from the same Cause.

We would not be wanting in the Use of the proper salutary Means for restraining such a Licence as the Bounds prescribed by the Catholic Church, have Recourse to your Zeal for the Ecclesiastical Discipline, in firm Confidence that you will join your efforts with ours to abolish the said Abuse, and prevent the Polish Nation, so much to be respected for its Accounts, from being stigmatiz'd hereafter as a foul a Stain.

We therefore most earnestly pray and exhort you to attend to our Apostolical Remonstrances, and upon every Occasion to discharge the Duty of your Ministry with the Vigilance of Pastors who know that they one day render an Account of their Behaviour to Christ the Heavenly Spouse of the Church and Sovereign Judge. We doubt not but the Success will be answerable to your Zeal and Piety, and in testimony thereof we give you with Tenderness our Apostolical Benediction.

Rome, April 11.

Prelates to whom this Brief is directed must render Answer to it without Delay, in order to convince them of their Disposition to concert the most proper Measures for remedying this Abuse. The Point in view is to find out an Expedient among the Usages founded in the Laws of the Kingdom and the Tenor of the Decrees of the Council of Trent, which in Sess. 24. absolutely forbids the Dissolution of Marriages by Cause whatsoever.

Alholm, May 12. We are assur'd that it has been in the Secret Committee of the Dyet, that if a break out in the North, those Powers which are Allies to Sweden shall be call'd on to furnish necessary Succours for its Defence. 'Tis also said, that the King of Prussia offers to advance a great Sum of Money to this Court. The Baron de Gyllenstierna has been again examin'd, has declar'd that the principal Cause of that Correspondence which he had the Misfortune to be concern'd in was, to cause a thorough reformation of the Ministry, and to bring things about so that they were on in 1735. Passengers arriv'd from Abo in Finland report, that every thing there promises a speedy War.

Paris, May 19. The Shrine of St. Genevieve, which is never meddled with but in Times and Circumstances of the utmost Distress, was uncover'd last Tuesday, in pursuance of an Arret of Parliament, and a Mandate of the Archbishop of Paris, enjoining Publick Prayers to God for Weather to ripen the Fruits of the Earth. The Preamble to the Mandate runs thus; viz.

'CHARLES, Archbishop of Paris, &c. A long Drought succeeding a Deluge of Rain, renews those Alarms which the Irregularity of the Seasons gave us last Year. The Heavens by being cover'd every now and then with Clouds seem to promise us the Relief which is necessary for our Wants; but they quickly disperse and cool our Hopes, and plunge us again in the Apprehension of seeing the Appearances of a rich and plentiful Harvest fade every Day. May we not infer from hence that some Obstacle on our Part keeps back that Benefit which the Divine Goodness is inclin'd to grant us. Take heed to yourselves, said Moses heretofore to the Children of Israel, *that you do not turn aside from the Lord to serve other Gods, lest the Lord's Wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the Heaven that there be no Rain, and that the Land yield not her Fruit.*

We have not, 'tis true, forsaken the Lord to pay impious Worship to false Gods, but we have provok'd him by infinite other Ways; and while we smart under a Scourge like to that with which he formerly threaten'd this perverse Nation, 'tis impossible for us not to know the Hand of a powerful and wrathful God, who revenges the Abuse of his Mercies, and the Contempt of his Laws, on the Ungrateful and the Rebellious.

At this sad Juncture we have nothing to do, but to appease our Judge. If we have Recourse to him with Sighs and Penitence, and with a deep Sense of our Unworthiness, and Sorrow for our Sins, we conjure him to pardon a Nation trembling and terrify'd at the Sight of his just Wrath, he will recal his ancient Mercies for our Sakes; and will, as one of the Prophets expresses it, *Repent of the Evil that he thought to do unto us.* For these Causes, &c.

Rome, May 6. One Day last Week the Chevalier de St. George had a very great Levee of Priests, &c. at which were no less than four Cardinals; and next Day he had another numerous Levee of such Persons as are at least Well-wishers to his Interests. What was the Meaning of these two extraordinary Assemblies is not said, but 'tis supposed to be owing to some Letters receiv'd from abroad. 'Tis reported, that one of the Chevalier's Sons will go and live in Spain. The Tribunal of the Inquisition has seiz'd several Copies of a Book call'd *Anti-Machiavel* in the Hands of a certain Person here, who had contriv'd a Stratagem to import them. 'Tis a Work which is prohibited to be either sold or read here, under very severe Penalties.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh, May 11. On Saturday last, about Four Afternoon, a dreadful Fire happen'd in that stately Stone Building call'd Cathcart's Land, on the South Side of the Cross, which entirely consumed the same. It was a double Tenement, and inhabited by many Families, some of considerable Note, viz. Commissioner Campbell, Mr. John Murray a principal Clerk of Session, Mr. Ronald Crawford Writer to the Signet, &c. 'Tis said to have been occasion'd by a Boy at the Cross-Keys Tavern leaving carelessly a lighted Candle among some Tar-Bricks, which quickly catching, spread to an adjoining Closet where were a large Quantity of Candles, that likewise immediately took fire, and the whole burnt with such Violence that the Inhabitants had scarce Time to save their Lives. Tho' the Loss be very considerable and great, yet the heaviest and most general happen'd in the House of Mr. Crawford, where the whole Writings and Securities of many Noblemen and Gentlemen, his Clients, were entirely destroy'd.

FOREIGN PORTS.

Lisbon, April 22. This Day arriv'd the Brogdon, Hooper, from Carolina; the Hunting Fox, Barrett, from Falmouth; and the Britannia, Gallway, from Cork. Yesterday sail'd the Placentia, Brooks, and the Sarum, MacKenzie, for Newfoundland.

Leghorn, May 8. On the 2d inst. arriv'd the Anna Maria, Hinkeldy, from Lisbon and Genoa. This Day sail'd, under Convey of the Garland Man of War, the Leghorn, Werry, and the St. John Baptist, Harvey, for London; the Virtuous Widow, Macnamara, and the

Dispatch, Atkinson, for Dublin; and the Goodwill, Myfflin, for Port Mahon.

HOME PORTS.

Leith, May 11. Arriv'd the Nathaniel, Wright, from Lynn; the Alexander and Jean, Rae, from Stockton; the Providence, Ogilvie, from Middleburgh; and the Edinburgh Merchant, Dick, from London.

Bristol, May 16. Came in since our last, the Mayflower, Cloude, from Jersey; the Ann Schooner, Walker, from St. Kitt's; and the St. Quintin, Barker, from the Currant Islands.

Arriv'd at Barbados, the Somerset, Saunders, from Bristol; the Pompey, Lane, and the Nassau, —, both from Africa; at Scilly, the John and Henry, West, from Montserrat; at Stockholm, the Narham, Penny, from London; at Lisbon, the Brogden, Hooper, and the Charming Molly, —, both from Carolina.

Last Week the Barbados Merchant, bound to South Carolina, took Fire as she lay at Anchor in King's road, ready for sailing, and burnt down to the Water's Edge in a short Space of Time. The Rigging took Fire in a surprising Manner, so that she was in a Blaze from Top to Bottom. We hear this sad Accident happen'd from a Snuff of a Candle catching hold of some Oakham.

Deal, May 17. Wind S. W. His Majesty's Ship, the Folkestone is sail'd to the Westward. Remain His Majesty's Ships Lenox, Feversham, and Lightning Bomb, with the Mary, Maccarty, for Jamaica; the Britannia, Sharp, for North Carolina; the Leopard, Henshaw, for Cork; the Elizabeth, Cheshire, for Nevis; the Sarah, Roberts, for Liverpool; the Friendship, Baker, for Chester. Arriv'd the Antelope, Morris, from Lisbon; the Rialto, Drake, and the Friendship, Scott, both from Zant.

LONDON, May 19.

The Lord Harrington his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State arriv'd at the Hague last Sunday Se'nnight, and after having had several Conferences with the Lords of the Regency, set out last Wednesday for Hanover.

Letters of the 2d Instant from Cadiz say, that the nine Spanish Men of War which lately sail'd from that Harbour met with a Storm soon after their Departure, which had oblig'd them to return with three small English Prizes which they took by the Way.

The last Advices from the Prussian Army in Silesia by way of Berlin say, that the King had sent a considerable Body of his Forces to the other Side of the Oder, with a View as 'twas said to take Oppelen and some neighbouring Places, while another Detachment is marching with the like Design towards Schweidnitz.

They have Letters from Silesia at the Hague which say, that the King of Prussia has given the following Declaration with regard to the Affairs of that Duchy, viz.

'I agree to a Suspension of Arms as soon as the Queen of Hungary has appointed her Plenipotentiaries to repair to any Place in Silesia which she shall please to nominate, there to treat of a Peace. This Princefs may be assur'd she will find me well inclin'd to facilitate an Accommodation: But if the Time be suffered to run on and the Operations of the War continued, the Accommodation will become every day more difficult, and the Conditions not so easy to conclude.

Letters of the 2d inst. O. S. from Vienna say, that the British and Dutch Ministers have lately had a very long Conference with the Queen of Hungary's Ministers, concerning the Declarations intended to be made by their Masters to the King of Prussia, with regard to the Pragmatic Sanction as well as to the Affair of Silesia.

There are particular Letters from Dresden which say, that a Treaty of Alliance is on the Point of being sign'd between the King of Poland, the Queen of Hungary, the King of Great Britain, and the Court of Russia, for maintaining the Interests of the House of Austria.

They write from Paris, that a Gentleman whom they call my Lord Clare, a Major-General in the French King's Army, and Colonel of an Irish Regiment that goes by his Name, is coming over hither with Leave of the said King, to take Possession of an Estate of 1500 l. a year, just fallen to him by the Death of an Uncle in this Kingdom.

The Duchess of Melfort Wife to the Duke of that Name, a Peer of Scotland and England, and Widow by a former Marriage of Henry Fitz-James, Duke of Albemarle, a Lieutenant-General of the King's Forces, and

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